

REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 7, 18 and 27 were objected to because of informalities. Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Claims 1-29 and 40-43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Wright (U.S. Pat. No. 1,097,154). Claims 1-23 and 27-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Mossotti (U.S. Pat. No. 6,082,790) and Geringer (U.S. Pat. No. 7,246,827). Claims 30-36 and 40-43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Mossotti and Geringer and further in view of Cayne (U.S. Pat. No. 7,113,071). Claims 1-5, 7-10, 14 and 16-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Wright. Claims 37-39 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 25 and 26 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

The amendments to claim 1 have defined claim 1 as a cabinet lock comprising:

a latch bolt assembly with a bolt biased to the lock position;

a striker;
an electromagnetic means to move the bolt to the unlock position against the bias; and
a striker interference means.

Wright

Claim 1 is patentable in view of Wright. Wright does not have an electromagnetic means to move the bolt from the locked to the unlocked position. Wright's lock incorporates an electromagnetic means to actuate an interference means (shutter) within the strike plate. Wright's lock does not bias the locking bolt to the locked position. Wright's lock incorporates a biasing means to bias the interference means to the position that prevents the lock bolt from entering the strike plate.

Geringer and Mossotti

Mossotti describes a pivoting plate that covers the bolt receiving hole in the strike plate. The plate may interfere and prevent the bolt from engaging with the strike plate.

Geringer's invention is a lock that is interchangeable between a fail safe and fail secure mode. Geringer's lock does include an electromagnetic means, but this does not act to move the bolt against the biasing means. Geringer's use of an electromagnetic means is to prevent a door handle from moving the bolt.

Neither Geringer nor Mossotti teach a lock incorporating the features of claim 1 of the present invention.

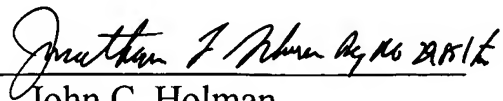
New claims 44-48 have been added to place the subject matter of allowable dependent claims 25 and 37 in independent form.

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application should now be in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is in order, and such favorable action and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

However, if after reviewing the above amendments and remarks, the Examiner has any questions or comments, she is cordially invited to contact the undersigned attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

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